

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City



SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1404

Introduced by Representative Harlin Cast. Abayon

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to grant discount privileges to qualified farmers and fishermen by allowing a P2.00 discount for every liter of petroleum products sold to them with the end view of further improving their farming and fishing activities. The discount will lessen the expenses of farmers and fishermen in the pursuit of their business activities which will benefit not only the farmers and fishermen but also the retailers and end-users. One of the priorities of the government is food security and this can be achieved if the government will extend assistance to farmers and fishermen as provided in this legislation.

This measure was previously filed by Senator Manny Villar in the 15th Congress. Passage of this Bill is earnestly sought now in the 16th Congress.


HARLIN CAST. ABAYON
Representative
First District of Northern Samar

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AN ACT
GRANTING ALL QUALIFIED FARMERS AND FISHERMEN DISCOUNT ON
PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Statement of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to provide a more equitable distribution of opportunities, income and wealth. Toward this end, the State shall provide assistance to small farmers and fishermen in terms of petroleum discount privileges designed to lower the cost of goods and services produced by the agricultural sector and expand productivity as the key to raise the quality of life for all farmers and fishermen.

SECTION 2. Discount on Petroleum Products. - Qualified farmers and fishermen shall be entitled to a Two Pesos (P2.00) discount for every liter of petroleum products purchased. Provided, that such petroleum products are used for the cultivation of crops, planting of fruits trees and similar agricultural products, raising of livestock, marketing and distribution of their produce to retailers and end-user pr the production of fish and other aquatic products. For purposes of this Act, farmer refers to a natural person, farmer organizations and other juridical entities engaged in cultivating, planting, marketing and distributing crops, vegetables, fruits and other agricultural products and shall include livestock raisers, whose Subsistence depends on farming as the primary source of income. Fisherman refers to a person who is engaged in raising, catching, taking or gathering of fish or aquatic products for profit.

SECTION 3. Beneficiaries. - The beneficiaries of this Act are farmers and fishermen whose annual income does not exceed Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (P200,000.00).

SECTION 4. City of Municipal Agriculturist. - The city or municipal agriculturist is hereby mandated to make a list of legitimate beneficiaries and regularly update the same. It shall issue the corresponding identification cards which shall be valid anywhere in the country for purposes of purchasing petroleum products.

SECTION 5. Local Government.- It shall be the responsibility of the local chief executive to ensure that the provisions of this Act are fully implemented.

SECTION 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - The Secretary of Agriculture shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this Act within sixty (60) days after approval of this Act.

SECTION 7. Repealing Clause.- All laws, decrees or executive issuances and any rules and regulations or any part thereof which may be inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed, amended or modifies accordingly.

SECTION 8. Effectivity. -This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general publication.

Approved.